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courage is contagious

Viewing cable 05OTTAWA490, SECURITY ENVIRONMENTAL PROFILE RESPONSE FOR

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#05OTTAWA490**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
05OTTAWA490	2005-02-16 19:29	2011-08-30 01:44	SECRET	Embassy Ottawa

Appears in these articles:

<http://aptn.ca/pages/news/2011/04/30/u-s-considers-native-canadian-groups-as-possible-terror-threats-embassy-cables/>

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

id: 27175
date: 2/16/2005 19:29
refid: 05OTTAWA490
origin: Embassy Ottawa
classification: SECRET
destination: 05STATE23078
header:

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

----- header ends -----

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 OTTAWA 000490

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/16/2015

TAGS: [ASEC](#) [PTER](#)

SUBJECT: SECURITY ENVIRONMENTAL PROFILE RESPONSE FOR

MISSION CANADA

REF: STATE 23078

Classified By: RSO THOMAS F. GREY, JR., REASON 1.4 (G)

POLITICAL VIOLENCE

[1](#)1. (SBU) DEMONSTRATIONS

[1](#)A. YES

[1](#)B. YES

[1](#)C. YES

[1](#)D. ALCAN POSTS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DEMONSTRATORS TO BE APPROXIMATELY 50. HOWEVER, A STEADY INCREASE IN THE NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF DEMONSTRATIONS DID OCCUR THROUGHOUT CANADA. DURING AND AFTER THE IRAQI WAR/CONFLICT CG'S TORONTO AND MONTREAL, DUE TO THE ETHNIC MAKE-UP OF THOSE CITIES, EXPERIENCED DEMONSTRATIONS WITH NUMBERS IN THE THOUSANDS. OBVIOUSLY, THIS INCREASE WAS A DIRECT RESULT TO GROWING ANTI-WAR ACTIVISTS AND U.S. POLICY IN THE MIDDLE-EAST AND PERSIAN GULF IN ADDITION TO THE ETHNIC MAKEUP, POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT, AND LARGE STUDENT POPULATION WHERE STUDENTS TEND TO BE SOMEWHAT LEFT-LEANING. ANTI-WAR DEMONSTRATIONS AND RALLIES DID OCCUR IN OTHER LARGE CANADIAN CITIES SUCH AS OTTAWA, VANCOUVER, CALGARY AND HALIFAX AND WERE CONSTANT DURING AND IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE IRAQI WAR.

[1](#)E. MILITARY ACTIONS AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY IN GENERAL

[1](#)F. PEACEFUL

[1](#)G. THE USG DID HAVE TO PAY ABOUT CAD 13,000 LAST SPRING TO THE BUILDING MANAGEMENT CORPORATION TO REPAIR DAMAGE TO THE BUILDING HOUSING THE CONSULATE IN MONTREAL AS A RESULT OF A LARGE ANTI-WAR PROTESTS -- MOSTLY FOR THE REMOVAL OF RED PAINT THROWN REPEATEDLY ON THE EXTERIOR WALLS, REMOVAL OF BLACK MARKER FROM OUR GREAT SEAL, AND OTHER NON-STRUCTURAL,

SUPERFICIAL DAMAGE. A MONTREAL POLICE OFFICER DID SUSTAIN SOME MINOR INJURIES AFTER HE WAS STRUCK WITH A THROWN BRICK.

1H. NO

1I. YES, ANTI-WAR

1J. YES

1K. NUMBERS OF ANTI-WAR DEMONSTRATORS STEADILY INCREASED.

1L. PEACEFUL FOR THE MOST PART WITH A FEW ARRESTS

1M. NOTE COMMENTS IN PARA G ABOVE

12. (SBU) MACRO CONFLICT CONDITIONS

1A. NO

1B. N/A

1C. N/A

1D. N/A

13. (CON/NOFORN) HOST COUNTRY CAPABILITIES

1A. YES

1B. YES

1C. NO

1D. YES, THE CANADIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (CSIS) AND THE ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE (RCMP) HAVE DEMONSTRATED A COMMITMENT TO BATTLE TERRORISM. CANADIAN SERVICES DO NOT APPEAR TO BE AS PROACTIVE AS U.S. LAW ENFORCEMENT REGARDING CELL PENETRATION AND SOURCE DEVELOPMENT. BOTH AGENCIES ARE SUPPORTIVE AND COOPERATIVE WITH U.S. LAW ENFORCEMENT FOR THE MOST PART ALTHOUGH RESTRICTED BY THE CANADIAN CHARTER OF RIGHTS.

1E. YES, AS LONG AS PRIVACY REGULATIONS ARE ENFORCED TO THE FULLEST DEGREE OF THE LAW.

1F. YES

1G. YES

1H. GOOD/AVERAGE. IN GENERAL, MAJOR AIRPORTS GENERALLY HAVE GOOD SECURITY CONTROLS IN PLACE. HOWEVER, U.S. PRECLEARANCE OPERATIONS AT SEVEN MAJOR AIRPORTS IN CANADA ARE LOCATED IN FRONT OF AIRPORT SECURITY. US DIRECTED POLITICAL PRESSURE IS ELIMINATING A PORTION OF THIS PROBLEM WITH NEW FACILITIES AT OTTAWA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. USE OF THE US NO-FLY LIST HAS BEEN ADDED FOR OUTBOUND INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS BUT NOT USED FOR DOMESTIC AIR TRAVEL.

1I. REVENUE CANADA CUSTOMS AND CANADIAN IMMIGRATION ARE REASONABLY EFFECTIVE AT PORTS OF ENTRY.

1J. CANADA LACKS A DEDICATED BORDER PATROL. THE RCMP PERFORMS THIS FUNCTION.

----- INDIGENOUS TERRORISM -----

14. (SBU) ANTI-AMERICAN TERRORIST GROUPS

1A. NO

1B. N/A

1C. N/A

1D. N/A

1E. N/A

1F. N/A

1G. N/A

1H. N/A

15. (SBU) OTHER INDIGENOUS TERRORIST GROUPS

1A. YES

1B. NATIVE CANADIAN (ABORIGINAL) GROUPS HAVE, ON OCCASION, HAD CONFRONTATIONS WITH CANADIAN GOVERNMENT SECURITY AND MILITARY PERSONNEL.

1C. NO

1D. N/A

1E. NO

----- TRANSITIONAL TERRORISM -----

16. (S/NF) TRANSNATIONAL TERRORIST INDICATORS

1A. YES. ALMOST EVERY KNOWN ISLAMIC EXTREMIST GROUP HAS EITHER A PRESENCE OR SYMPATHIZERS IN CANADA SUCH AS THE HIZBALLAH; AL-ITIHAD; ALGERIAN GIA; THE LTTE; EGYPTIAN ISLAMIC JIHAD AND AL-QAEDI. SIKH EXTREMISTS ARE ALSO PRESENT AND ARE UNDER SCRUTINY BY CANADIAN SECURITY SERVICES AS A RESULT OF THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN THE 1985 AIR INDIA BOMBING. ALCAN POSTS HAVE SEEN AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF VISA VIPER ENTRIES.

1B. THE ORGANIZATIONS AND SYMPATHIZERS ARE PRIMARILY ASSESSED AS PROPAGANDA, FINANCIAL, AND/OR SUPPORT CELLS. MOST RECENTLY, FINANCIAL SUPPORT FRONTS FOR HAMAS. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN PLANNED IN CANADA IN RECENT YEARS SUCH AS WELL DOCUMENTED EL-MAATI PROBE. ANOTHER NOTABLE EXAMPLE WAS THE DECEMBER 1999 ARREST OF CONVICTED TERRORIST AHMED RESSAM AND THE SUBSEQUENT ARREST OF A NUMBER OF HIS ACCOMPLICES. RESSAM WAS A MONTREAL BASED TERRORIST APPREHENDED AT THE BRITISH COLUMBIA/WASHINGTON STATE BORDER AS HE WAS ENROUTE TO CONDUCT AN ATTACK IN THE UNITED STATES. INVESTIGATIONS INDICATE CANADA-BASED EXTREMISTS HAVE TIES TO IDENTIFIED OR SUSPECT TERRORISTS OVERSEAS. THE NATURE AND EXTENT OF THE CANADA-BASED PERSONS INVOLVEMENT WITH THESE TERRORISTS IS OFTEN UNCLEAR BUT SHOULD GIVE CAUSE FOR CONCERN.

1C. NO

1D. (S/NF) YES, THERE ARE EXTREMISTS WHO ARE IN SYMPATHY WITH THE ISLAMIC FUNDAMENTALIST ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDING AL-QAEDA. SEVERAL ARRESTS BY CANADIAN SERVICES WERE MADE OVER THE LAST YEAR OF SUSPECTED AL-QAEDA MEMBERS. NGO'S HAVE ALSO BEEN DETERMINED TO BE IN SUPPORT OF SUSPECTED TERRORIST FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES. THERE ARE SIKH EXTREMISTS IN SYMPATHY WITH THE SIKH ORGANIZATION(S). THE LARGEST OF THOSE COMMUNITIES, WE BELIEVE, ARE NOT FULLY KNOWN TO SECURITY

SERVICES, WHO CONTINUE TO WORK THE TARGETS IN QUESTION TO ACCESS AND RE-ASSESS THAT QUESTION. FOR EXAMPLE, THE GLOBAL RELIEF FOUNDATION (GRF) AND THE BENEVOLENCE INTERNATIONAL FUND (BIF), BOTH LISTED AS HAVING SUPPORTED TERRORISM BY THE U.S. HAVE BEEN ACTIVE IN CANADA. THE TAMIL LTTE IS ALSO VERY ACTIVE IN RAISING MILLIONS OF DOLLARS THROUGH A VARIETY OF FRONT GROUPS.

E. YES

F. (S/NF) EXTREMIST GROUPS RESIDENT IN CANADA PRIMARILY OPERATE AS PROPAGANDA, FINANCIAL AND SUPPORT CELLS. HOWEVER, THE POTENTIAL THREAT FROM THESE GROUPS CANNOT BE DISCOUNTED. IN JANUARY, 2002, A SUSPECTED AL QAEDA-TRAINED TERRORIST, AL RAUF BIN AL HABIB BIN YOUSEF AL-JIDDI, A CANADIAN CITIZEN BORN IN TUNISIA, WAS IDENTIFIED AS ONE OF THE FIVE SUICIDE MARTYRS WHOSE PHOTOS WERE RELEASED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IN JANUARY 2002. AL-JIDDI LIVED IN MONTREAL. U.S. LAW ENFORCEMENT DO ON OCCASION IDENTIFY AN INDIVIDUAL OF INTEREST WITH TIES TO CANADA AS IS THE CURRENT SITUATION WITH ABDERRAOUF JDEY AND MAHAR ARAR.

G. N/A

H. THE EAC BELIEVES THAT CANADA'S STRICT LAWS PERTAINING TO WEAPONS IN GENERAL IS A DETERRENT TO THE AVAILABILITY OF SMALL ARMS. POST CANNOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT OTHER TYPES OF WEAPONS TO INCLUDE CBW AND COMBAT GRADE EXPLOSIVES COULD BE USED AGAINST U.S. OR OTHER INTERNATIONAL TARGETS AS WITNESSED IN RECENT WORLD EVENTS.

Visit Canada's Classified Web Site at

<http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/wha/ottawa>

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